WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of generating an electronic report from a list view displaying data objects that each comprise a plurality of fields and corresponding attributes for the fields, the method comprising:

receiving a user selection of at least one object field of the displayed fields;

generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report, the tabulated report to include the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field; and

launching the external reporting application and generating the tabulated report with the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field.

- 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a user selection of the external reporting application.
- 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the user selection of the external reporting application is selected from the group consisting of Microsoft® Excel and HTML.
- 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying a view of the list view and wherein the tabulated report is triggered from the view of the list view.
- 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the data objects for the list view are retrieved from a database according to a search feature prior to displaying the view of the list view.

- 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the output file includes the selected at least one object field and the corresponding attributes.
- 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the output file is an ActiveX Data Object Recordset.
- 8. The method of claim 1 wherein generating the output file that the external reporting application can use to generate the tabulated report further comprises transferring the output file to a reporting-tool-specific interface component capable of plug-and-play interaction with the external reporting application.
- 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the launched external reporting application generates the tabulated report.
- 10. Computer-readable medium with program instructions stored thereon that when executed perform the following functions to generate an electronic report from a computer user interface list view displaying data objects that each comprise fields and corresponding attributes for the fields:

receives a user selection of at least one object field of the displayed object fields;

generates an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report, the tabulated report to include the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field; and

launches the external reporting application and generates the tabulated report with the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field.

- 11. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the program instructions when executed further performs the function of receiving a user selection of the external reporting application.
- 12. The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the user selection of the external reporting application is selected from the group consisting of Microsoft® Excel and HTML.
- 13. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein: the program instructions when executed further performs the function of displaying a view of the list view; and the tabulated report is triggered from the view of the list view.
- 14. The computer-readable medium of claim 13 wherein the data objects for the list view are retrieved from a database according to a search feature prior to displaying the view of the list view.
- 15. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the output file includes the selected at least one object field and the corresponding attributes.
- 16. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the output file is an ActiveX Data Object Recordset.
- 17. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein generating the output file that the external reporting application can use to generate the tabulated report further comprises transferring the output file to a reporting-tool-

specific interface component capable of plug-and-play interaction with the external reporting application.

18. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the launched external reporting application generates the tabulated report.